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BRIAN C. McNEIL **Executive Director** 

## ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

January 11, 2006

The Honorable Phil Gordon Mayor, City of Phoenix City Hall 200 West Washington Phoenix, AZ 85003

Re:

Cooperation on Pipeline Encroachment Issues

Dear Mayor Gordon:

Thank you for meeting with me and my staff on January 2, 2006 regarding the pipeline safety concerns prompted by the Summit at Copper Square redevelopment project. Assigning Rick Naimark as the city's point person underscores your commitment to this very important public safety issue. I believe our meeting was informative and will lead to productive action from both the City of Phoenix and the Commission.

On January 10, I briefed my fellow Commissioners on details of our meeting. They are supportive of any cooperative efforts - either in the form of greater notification or legislative action calling for uniform safety standards - we can take to avoid future encroachment on hazardous liquid or natural gas pipelines. With that in mind, the Commission is opening a generic docket to serve as a clearinghouse to gather information on pipeline encroachment issues.

We look forward to receiving written comments regarding the development of proposed legislation. As we discussed, I concur that any legislative efforts should encompass a broader group of stakeholders, including the League of Cities and Towns, the counties, the State Fire Marshall, the U.S. Department of Transportation Office of Pipeline Safety, pipeline operators and land developers.

The Commission appreciates your cooperation and timely response on this matter.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hatch-Miller

Chairman

cc: Richard Naimark, Deputy City Manager